

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 02221 010548Z

ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 AGRE-00

AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 EPG-02 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02

TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-02 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /145 W

-----010554Z 017391 /13

R 312005Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5189

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 2221

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, LOS, TZ, US

SUBJ: TANZANIAN COMMENTARY ON LOS CONFERENCE

ALLEGES BLACKMAIL BY US ON SEABED MINING

1. GOVERNMENT-OWNED SUNDAY NEWS OF MAY 29 COMMENTING ON SIXTH SESSION OF LOS CONFERENCE DISCUSSES THREAT OF "DANGEROUS UNDERWATER FREE-FOR-ALL IN WHICH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE THE BIGGEST LOSERS." SIX SESSION DESCRIBED AS "CRITICAL." EDITORIA WARNS OF "ACTS OF INDUSTRIAL PLUNDER." "ALREADY THE UNITED STATES IS LEGALIZING UNILATERAL ACTION ON THE PART OF ITS MINING COMPANIES, A MATTER WHICH MUST BE SEEN AS BLACKMAIL TO THE VERY PURPOSE OF THE SEABED CONFERENCE AND IS CHARACTERISTIC OF IMPERIALISM."

2. BEGIN TEXT: THIRD WORLD MUST WORK TOGETHER. THE SIXTH BEEN UNDERWAY IN NEW YORK FOR THE PAST WEEK. IT IS SCHEDULED TO LAST AT LEAST 18 WEEKS.

THE CONFERENCE, A RESULT OF SEVERAL YEARS OF PREPARATORY UNCLASSIFIED

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WORK IN THE UNITED NATIONS SEABED COMMITTEE, IS SEARCHING FOR A FORMULA TO ESTABLISH AN EQUITABLE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM FOR THE USE OF THE SEA, EXPLOITATION OF MARINE RESOURCES AND THE WEALTH OF THE OCEAN BEDS AND SUBSOILS AS WELL AS OTHER ISSUES RELATED TO NON-COASTAL WATERS.

THE FIRST SESSION WAS HELD IN NEW YORK IN 1973 AND SINCE

THEN FOUR SUBSTANTIVE SESSIONS HAVE BEEN HELD IN CARACAS (1974), GENEVA (1975) AND TWO IN NEW YORK 1(1976).

THE CONFERENCE IS GRAPPLING WITH MANY COMPLEX ISSUES. THE INTERESTS ARE ALSO MANY VARIED AND CONFLICTING. WITH VAST IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TECHNOLOGY OF UNDERWATER EXPLOITATION, COUPLED WITH BIG POWER RIVALRY ON THE HIGH SEAS, THERE IS A THREAT OF A DANGEROUS UNDERWATER FREE-FOR-ALL IN WHICH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE THE BIGGEST LOSERS.

THAT IS WHY THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE IS CRITICAL. IT OFFERS THE LAST CHANCE OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN DEVELOPED NATIONS AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OVER THE WAY THE WEALTH OF THE SEABED IS TO BE SHARED BETWEEN THEM. PAST SESSIONS HAVE SEEN A LOT OF FRUITLESS DIPLOMATIC BARGAINING AND A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT CAN AT BEST BE GIVEN A FIFTY-FIFTY CHANCE.

HOWEVER, CONTINUED DELAY IN AGREEMENT OVER THE SHARING OF THE MINERAL RICHES OF THE SEABED, MEASURES BEING IN UNILATERAL MEASURES BEING TAKEN AT THE EXPENSES OF THE WEAKER DEVELOPING NATIONS.

THE WORLD MUST BEWARE OF SUCH ACTS OF INDUSTRIAL PLUNDER WHICH WOULD WELL PRECIPITATE A WAR INVOLVING NATIONS AS WELL AS MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS.

ALREADY THE UNITED STATES IS LEGALISING UNILATERAL ACTION ON THE PART OF ITS MINING COMPANIES, A MATTER WHICH MUST

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BE SEEN AS BLACK-MAIL TO THE VERY PURPOSE OF THE LAW OF THE SEABED CONFERENCE AND IT IS CHARACTERISTIC OF IMPERIALISM.

ANY MOVES BY ANY INDUSTRIALIZED NATION TO UNILATERALLY ALLOW ANY OF ITS FIRMS ACCESS TO THE LUCRATIVE SEABED RESOURCES - THE WORLD'S COMMON HERITAGE - MUST BE RESISTED BY ALL PEACE LOVING PEOPLES. OPERATIONS FOR THE EXPLOITATION OF THE SEABED MUST BE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE AEGIS OF A SUPRANATIONAL BODY.

THE EXISTING RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW ARE HEAVILY IN FAVOUR OF THE DEVELOPED WORLD AND IF THERE IS GOING TO BE ANY MEANINGFUL SUCCESS IN CHANGING THEM, THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MUST STICK TOGETHER.

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition History: n/a
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